GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1317
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2002
COMPLAINTS ON QUALITY OF WHEAT EXPORTED
RAM SHAKAL;RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints from a number of countries in regard to the quality of the wheat being exported to them by India;

(b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to improve such a situation and the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI PRADHAN)

(a)&(b): No complaint has been received by the Government from any country on the quality of wheat exported from the Central Pool.

However, some consignments of wheat sent to Iraq by private parties were rejected on account of presence of inorganic foreign matter, although, these consignments conformed to the internationally accepted CODEX standards.

Also there were press reports in middle of 2001 that the Bogasari Flour Mills ofIndonesia had stopped buying Indian wheat due to high dirt contents, although it did not rule out future purchases from India if the quality improved. This was however enquired by the Embassy of India, Jakarta and found to be factually incorrect.Moreover, upto 15.02.2002, 2.77 lakh MTs of wheat has been exported to Indonesia.

(c): Improvement of quality for export is an ongoing process. In the interest of export, cleaning facilities have been set up at Kandla. Exporters lifting wheat or rice from the Central Pool are also permitted to select the stocks of their choice.There has been an appreciable increase in export of whet and rice in the current year.